

Appl. No. 10/608,741

Reply to Office Action of March 2, 2006

REMARKS

In the March 2, 2006 Office Action, claims 1-4, 13-16 and 18-20 were rejected, and claims 5-11 were objected to. These rejections and objections were repeated in the advisory action dated May 19, 2006. In order to place the present application in condition for allowance, claims 1-4 have been cancelled, and their respective elements have been incorporated into amended claim 5. Claims 13-16 and 18-20 have also been cancelled. A new claim 21, corresponding to originally-filed (and originally allowable) claim 12, has been added. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-4, 13-16, and 18-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over alleged “admitted prior art” in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,534,602 (the “Bley reference”). These rejections are respectfully traversed. In the interest of compact prosecution, however, claims 1-4, 13-16, and 18-20 have been cancelled without prejudice. This rejection is therefore rendered moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner states that 5-11 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 5 has been amended to include the elements of original claims 1-4, and a new claim 21 has been added consistent with originally-filed claim 12, which the Examiner indicated was allowable. Claims 5-11 and 21 are therefore in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

For at least the reasons given above, all claims now presently in the application are believed allowable and such allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to further discuss this application, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at (480) 385-5060.

Appl. No. 10/608,741

Reply to Office Action of March 2, 2006


If for some reason Applicants have not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent abandonment on this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

INGRASSIA FISHER & LORENZ

Dated: June 2, 2006

By:


Daniel R. Pote Reg. No. 43,011
(480) 385-5071